

# The Southern Ute Drum

WINNER OF FOUR NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION AWARDS INCLUDING GENERAL EXCELLENCE IN 2011

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### President's Day (Monday, Feb. 20) closures

- Southern Ute Tribal offices
- Southern Ute Head Start
- Southern Ute Indian Montessori Academy
- Ignacio School District
- Bayfield School District



## Royalty represents with Ute culture



photo Jeremy Wade Shockley/SU DRUM

Members of the Southern Ute Royalty greet spectators along Main Street in Durango, during this year's annual Snowdown light parade, Friday, Feb. 3. Little Miss Southern Ute Eufemia Pardo (left), and Little Miss first alternate Yllana Howe (right) bundled up against the cold on their float titled: "Once upon a time ... how the Nuche 'Utes' came to be". This year's Snowdown theme was "Once upon a Snowdown" referencing fairy tales.

## Three IHS wrestlers win league

By Joel Priest  
Special to the Drum

Raising a 'number one' finger visibly appears to come at a price.

Visibly, as in three of Ignacio's dwindling number of varsity wrestlers operating with at least one damaged hand – seniors Alex Pena and Jeff Herrera, and freshman Iaasic Pena.

The latter, having avoided a possible compound fracture on the outside of his right pinky, was put on – and will remain on, for the rest of the season – the shelf for the 2012 San Juan Basin League Championships, Feb. 3 in Norwood. Already knowing the whole of Class 2A resistance has him in its sights, Alex Pena had no problem in displaying a well-taped right wrist while in battle.

Herrera, however, elected to go all-out without wrappings on either of his Bobcat paws, both known to foes – Dove Creek's Tyler Ebberts included – to contain bones not one hundred percent sturdy. But working for momentum entering this weekend's 2A-Region II Championships (hosted by Sargent H.S. northeast of Monte Vista), Herrera not only pinned Dolores' Wyatt Mattausch in 66 seconds, he avenged a narrow Butch Melton Invitational loss to Ebberts with an 8-4 decision to win the SJBL 132-pound title.

Alex Pena, at 126, and senior 160-pounder Teagan Overturf each went 3-0 to also cop crowns for IHS, which totaled 21 team points to finish fourth of the circuit's five squads. With roster numbers in its favor, DCHS won with 36 – beating the host Mavericks by eleven, DHS by 13, and fifth-place Nucla by 19.

Facing just one familiar opponent, determined local Jaron Ragsdale, at 195 pounds, IHS



photo Joel Priest/Special to the Drum

Ignacio's Alex Pena (left) takes Norwood's Tim Armintrout where the Maverick doesn't want to go – way up ... then way down. At 126 pounds, Pena went 3-0 at the Feb. 3 SJBL Championships, hosted by NHS.

senior Colton Wyatt fell by 9-1 major decision (majors, technical falls, pins, etc., warranted no extra team points under the event's stripped-down scoring system) and took second.

Versus a four-man 113-pound bracket, junior Taylor Smith went 0-3 – pinned in 1:03 by DC's Chance Randolph, in an elapsed 5:27 by Dolores' Levi Noyes, and in 2:48 by Nucla's James Wilkerson. And at 170, freshman Blaine Mickey took an initial forfeit win over absent DC Bulldog Tyler Knuckles, but then fell by pin to DHS' Griffin Williams and in 19 seconds to Norwood's best, senior Brent Harris.

[Upon further inspection by the reporter, Smith was erroneously given 4 points for first place, rather than 1 for his fourth, while Nucla's Aaron Morgan was shorted a third-place point at

106 – meaning the Bobcats and Mustangs actually tied for fourth place with 18 team points each.]

Now, from hard luck to good luck ... Overturf began with a pin eighty seconds into the second period against DC's Wyatt Applin, then a 17-6 major rout – er, decision – of Nucla's Cody Terrell, and after a bye, stuck Dolores' Wyatt Wallace with a first-period pin.

And Alex Pena started with a pin ten ticks into the second period against DC's Tommy Fury, backed it with a rapid pin of Norwood's Tim Armintrout, and sewed up the division with a firm takedown of Dolores' Wyatt Wade – resulting in an injury default, 1:48 remaining in the second, when the Bear's right shoulder could stand no more treatment. Or pain.

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## BP donates to the museum



photo Ace Stryker/SU DRUM

The Southern Ute Cultural Center & Museum's Board of Directors accepted a \$50,000 grant from BP on January 27. The money will go to help fund educational and outreach programs – local and out-of-state.

## Tribal Council announces session breaks for the 2012 calendar year

Spring: April 2 – April 6  
Summer: July 9 – July 13  
Fall: Nov. 19 – Nov. 23  
Winter: Dec. 24 – Dec. 28

Council will not have any meetings scheduled during these weeks. Please plan accordingly to have necessary items approved prior to or after the breaks.

If you have any questions please contact Sunshine M. Flores, Executive Assistant to Chair, Vice & Tribal Council at 970-563-0100, ext 2319